

The Connecticut  
Department  
of Correction



Remember Our Troops

# P.R.I.D.E.

Our motto: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dignity, Excellence

## AT WORK



## Warden Murphy Sworn In

With his wife, family and colleagues looking on, Peter Murphy recently took the oath of office from Commissioner Theresa Lantz, who has appointed him warden of the Enfield Correctional Institution. "Peter is truly a home run for that facility as well as for the agency as a whole," said Commissioner Lantz. The ceremony was held at the Department's Memorial following the Annual Awards Ceremony. The Commissioner said her choice of Peter Murphy as the warden of Enfield CI was validated when she recently toured the facility and was met with extremely high morale among the staff there. Murphy, who had been Deputy Warden of the facility, began his career at Enfield as a correction officer in 1985.

Continued on Page 2, *Murphy*



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## Our Mission

The Department of Correction shall protect the public, protect staff, and provide safe, secure and humane supervision of offenders with opportunities that support successful community reintegration

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## From the Commissioner

I am extremely pleased and gratified to be able to deliver some very good news regarding the issue of wage compression, which I know, has been of serious interest to a number of our staff. In response to concerns raised, I directed our Human Resources and Fiscal Services Units, assisted by other staff who prepared additional analyses, to coordinate a systematic review of the salary scale with the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and the Office of Policy and Management (OPM). Given the magnitude of the review and its relationship to other state employee pay scales, this was a complicated undertaking. But my patience and yours has most definitely paid off with the news I received from OPM on Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.



Continued on Page 3, *Commissioner*

About and for  
correctional  
professionals

August 15- 28,  
2004

## Murphy, Cont'd

Commissioner Lantz pointed out that through the many other positions he's held during his career, "...his handprints are on many of the Department's important policies." Murphy assisted in developing the model the Department utilizes for managing inmates classified to Administrative Segregation and Chronic Discipline. Warden Murphy expressed his gratitude to the Commissioner for the appointment and pledged to maintain the high standards which have been set at the facility.

## Special Olympics

Recently three Cheshire CI staff members donated four hours of their time to collect tips at Damons Restaurant in Cheshire. For two consecutive years Damons has allowed Cheshire CI staff to raise money for Special Olympics. Damon's Manager, Tom Marotta, is happy to support this program and Cheshire CI. It all began in 2003 under the direction of Captain Joseph Carlone. Correctional Officer Bangie Vazquez and Recreation Supervisor Cindy Floser have been the liaisons for special Olympics fund raising at Cheshire CI. The event at Damons, raised \$465.00 in tips and the merchandise table raised an additional \$56.00 which included hats, coffee mugs, and tee shirts. Correctional Officer James Corbett, Correctional Officer Bangie Vazquez, and Lt. James Watson participated this year.



(Back Row: James Corbett, Bangie Vazquez and Jim Watson.  
Seated in the front is Damon's Manager Tom Marotta

## Inmates Return

Just as PRIDE at Work was going to press, Governor M. Jodi Rell announced that the remaining 428 Connecticut inmates housed in Virginia will be returning to DOC facilities by the beginning of the year. "Instead of sending inmates and tax dollars out of state, we can now more fully utilize correctional facilities and personnel in Connecticut," Governor Rell said. Commissioner Theresa Lantz has told the Governor that space is now available in Connecticut correctional facilities. "The preference of the Correction Department is to manage offenders in our own facilities, with the highly professional staff who work for our agency," the Commissioner said.

## Pride. *AT* Work

for  
August 15 - 28,  
2004

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M. Jodi Rell,  
Governor

Theresa C. Lantz,  
Commissioner

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Inside the walls of the Cheshire Correctional Institution, Russian and American criminal justice officials met to discuss their respective legal systems. Warden James Dzurenda and the staff of Cheshire CI hosted a tour recently for guests from Pskov, Russia. The visitors were a part of the Russian American Rule of Law Consortium (RAROLC); which is an umbrella organization for partnerships matching the legal communities of seven Russian regions with seven U.S. states. The goal of the partnerships is to develop the rule of law in both countries.

As the Russians watch their judicial system become more Americanized, they hope to learn and exchange ideas, as to how to make their system better. While the American court and prison system work independently of each other, the Russian system is much more closely linked. Russian prosecutors are responsible for the oversight and management of their prisons. The Russian system is undergoing sweeping reforms. They have made jury trials an option for people charged with serious crimes. Jury trials had been abolished in the early 1900s. Until recently a defendant only had the option to have the case heard by a judge. The judge would then render a verdict.

Warden Dzurenda told the visitors about the high-security prison and gave a comprehensive overview of the agency. The guests were treated to a facility tour that took them from the Control Center to Industries, then to Segregation and the North Block which is under renovation. They inspected the cells and talked to the unit officers. The highlight of the tour was the correctional K-9 demonstration given by CO Lori Tice and Rambo.

Milford State's Attorney Mary Galvin and Judge Thomas Bishop of the Hartford Appellate Court thanked Warden Dzurenda and his staff for their professionalism and their hospitality. As part of the program the visitors toured the State Forensic Lab and spent a day at a Superior Court house.



Cheshire CI staff with Russian visitors

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## Commissioner, Cont'd

As a result of the review I have been authorized to upgrade those staff at the rank of Counselor Supervisor, Captain and Major one salary group from their current wage level. This was effective on Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup> and will first appear in the September 16<sup>th</sup> paycheck. I am very much aware that this may not completely address all staff concerns within the agency regarding wage compression. This is, however, an extremely beneficial first step in the process. I know there are other managerial job classifications that feel that they too have been subject to wage compression. I want you to know that we are continuing to work with DAS and OPM to further review this issue. I can appreciate that the dollar amount that is tallied up in your paycheck every two weeks is a fundamental reason for the hard work that you give our Department and State. After all, supporting our families and ourselves is an overriding priority. But as I have said many times before, we are not drawn to employment with the State and specifically this Department solely because of the pay. We are here in large part because of our dedication to public service and the rewards that we receive as a result of protecting and assisting our fellow citizens. We only have to look at the incredible sacrifices of the more than 100 of our staff and their family members who have served on active military duty as evidence of the commitment of our staff to public service. I deeply appreciate all that you do and join Governor Rell and the public in commending you for the highly professional manner in which you carry out your duties. The continued safety, confidence and gratitude of the public play a vital part in our overall compensation for careers in corrections.



# Agency Good Neighgors

A five man detail from Bergin CI, overseen by Correction Officer Pete Newell and Captain Chris Corey, volunteered their time to ready two baseball fields for the Pomfret/Eastford Little League. The volunteers spent 2 days cleaning, painting and mowing the fields in preparation for an all-star weekend event hosted by the town. The event included little leaguers and senior league members from surrounding towns.



The little league field was given a new infield with a pitcher's mound and new bases. The dug outs were cleaned and painted, holes in the outfield were repaired to avoid injuries and the old score board was painted and given new numbers. The concession stand was cleaned and grafitti removed to prepare for opening day.

## EOQ's

**Northern CI** - Warden Wayne Choinski and the staff at Northern CI would like to congratulate CS Brian Bradway and CO Angelo Defillippo on receiving this recognition. Staff consider them valuable employees who are always willing to go the extra mile.

**MYI** - Warden Moises Gonzalez and the staff at Manson Youth Institution are proud to announce that CFSS 2 John Nesbit has been selected Employee of the Quarter. Staff at Manson Youth credit him with being dedicated to the department; he has a good work ethic as well as a willingness to assist others.

Congratulations on a job well done.



John Nesbit of MYI



(L-R) Warden Choinski and Angelo Defilippo



(L-R) Warden Choinski and Brian Bradway

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## Around the cell block



**Spain-** A German inmate awaiting deportation glued his hand together with his girlfriend's during a visit.

**California-** A San Diego man, who'd served 21 years for the murder of a boy was freed after new medical evidence raised doubts about the conviction.

**England-** A notorious convicted rapist has won a \$27-million Lotto jackpot with a ticket he bought on a weekend furlough.

**New Jersey-** The upscale Mates Inn restaurant, which is open to the public, is staffed by inmates from the Garden State Correctional facility.

# Congrats

Records Specialist Cathy Shepherd of the Offender Classification & Population Management Unit and her husband, Russell, are the proud parents of a beautiful baby girl. Amanda, who was born on August 9, 2004 weighed 6lbs, 2oz. Mom, Dad and Baby are all doing well.



Cathy Shephard with Amanda



Captain William Mulligan of MacDougall-Walker CI and his wife, Susan, are the proud parents of a baby boy, Connor Patrick, who was born on July 14, 2004, weighing in at 10 lbs. and 22 inches. Mom, dad and baby are all doing well.

## Get Well Soon

Warden Cuscovitch and the staff of Willard -Cybulski wish Major Nelson Garcia a speedy recovery as he recuperates from his recent liver transplant surgery.



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## Gubernatorial Thanks

*The following letter was received by the Commissioner after the Annual Awards Ceremony.*

Dear Commissioner Lantz and all of the Department of Correction, Thank you for honoring me last week with the beautiful plaque! You are kind to recognize me, but truly, it is I who recognize all that you do!! Keep up the Great Job!

Sincerely,  
Jodi Rell

## Did you know

*Did you know is an informational column written by the Facilities Management and Engineering Unit, aimed at increasing your knowledge of issues in our everyday lives. This week's issue was submitted by Rick Hamel who can be reached at 860-692-7554. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact David Batten, Acting Director at 860-692-7554.*



### Part 2 of 2

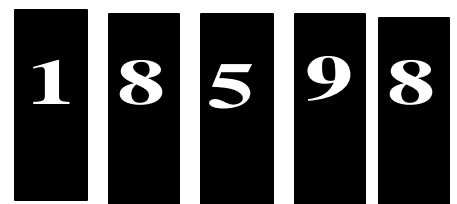
Last week's issue offered Grill Safety Tips. This week's safety tips are for Gas Containers.

### Transporting and Maintaining LP Gas Containers:

- ❖ There are limits on how much propane can be placed into an LP cylinder. A typical cylinder holds approximately 20 pounds of propane. You should never ask the propane supplier to overfill the cylinder.
- ❖ All containers, including those that appear undamaged, are required to be periodically requalified for continued service. The first requalification for a new cylinder is required within 12 years after the date of manufacture. LP Gas Containers should be transported in a secure, upright position.
- ❖ Never keep a filled container in a hot car or trunk. Heat will cause the gas pressure to increase which may open the relief valve and permit gas to escape.
- ❖ When you buy a new tank of propane, remove it from your vehicle immediately. An overheated tank can leak.

So, today, with more Americans lighting their grills than ever before, it is crucial to always remember that a successful barbecue is a safe barbecue. Remember to take precautions! Common sense and planning will prevent injuries.

## Supervised Population on Aug. 25



On Aug. 25, 2003 the population was 19,081.

# Calendar

**August 30 – September 3** -Heritage Week sponsored by the Central Office Diversity Council

**September 2** - Tip-a-Commissioner/Director at Café 24 North. This event will raise money for the Connecticut Special Olympics.

**September 5** - 2004 Connecticut State Employees' Campaign for Charitable Giving Kick-Off begins at the New Britain Rock Cats Stadium. Game Time 1:35 p.m. Tickets are \$5. For more info please contact 860.571.7553 or 860.571.7559.

**September 17** - Retirement Party for CO Dave Cicerchia to be held at the American Legion Hall, Route 5/ Enfield Street, Enfield, CT The cost is \$20. For tickets please contact the C/Os Pagliaro & Trowbridge at 860.749.8391, the Osborn CI Warden's Office or Osborn CI Gatehouse.

**September 18** - Bridgeport CC Softball Tournament and Family Outing 11a.m. to dusk at Beardsley Park, Field # 4 and # 5. The fee is \$200 per team (up to 10 players) and \$250 (up to 15 players) with \$100 deposit due upon registration. The fee includes the game, trophies and all you can eat buffet for players only. The buffet will be available to non-tournament players for a charge. Entertainment will be provided and will include music and children's games. For additional information please contact Pam Neuendorf at 203.579.6985 or Edgardo Rivera at 203.579.6131 ext. 302. Anyone wishing to make a donation should make checks payable to Bridgeport CC QWL.

**September 18** - Somers Road Race The 5th Annual 5K or 5 Mile Run / Walk beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the Somers Education Complex at 55 Ninth District Road, Somers.

**September 19** - 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Mass and Brunch for Law Enforcement Personnel and their families will be held at the Cathedral of Saint Patrick, 213 Broadway, Norwich, CT at 10:30 a.m. For more information you may call 860.887.9294

**September 25** - Bus Trip to South Street Seaport, NYC sponsored by QWL of Hartford CC. Cost is \$30 per person. Please contact CO Jalbert at 860.240.1886, GMO Gonzalez at 860.240.1878 or Lt.'s Boyle & Dorozko at 860.240.1969 for additional info. Tickets must be purchased by September 8<sup>th</sup>.

**DOC Bowling League** - Anyone interested in joining the Department's Bowling league may call Tom Clark at 860.568.5355 or Debbie Kozyra at 860.666.8114. The league begins on Septmeber 1st and meets on Wednesday evenings at the Bowl-O-Rama on the Berlin Turnpike beginning at 5:15.

## Rock the Vote

Remember...the presidential elections are November 2nd. The last day to register to vote is October 19th. Go to your local town hall with proper identification and register. If you do not have time to visit your town hall, call the registrar's office and they will send you the paperwork. The paperwork must be post-marked before the October deadline for the November election.

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## On the Move



Correctional Counselor April Major will be participating in The American Stroke Association Train To End Stroke marathon which will be held at Walt Disney World. Her goal is to raise \$3400. The deadline for donations is early October. For additional Information please contact her at (860) 566-7500 x 5249.

## Way to Go



Chaplain Jawad Ashraf, Islamic Chaplain at Cheshire C. I., recently received his Masters Degree in Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations from the Hartford Seminary. He was recently accepted for the Ph.D program sponsored by the Hartford Seminary in conjunction with Exeter University, England.

## New Website Address

The Department's new website address is:

[www.ct.gov/doc](http://www.ct.gov/doc)



## Condolences



Director Dan Callahan and the staff of the Human Resources Unit are saddened to announce the passing of Labor Relations Secretary Shabina Bhura's grandmother. Shabina's grandmother lived in India.



Warden Moises Gonzalez and the staff of Manson YI extend their condolences to Lieutenant Theodore Kittredge on the passing of his brother Harold.



Dr. Matt Conway and the staff at Correctional Enterprises are saddened to announce the passing of Norman "Butch" Plantier, father-in-law of CEC Supervisor Frank L'Etoile.



Warden Whidden and the staff of Robinson CI are saddened to announce the death of Ralph McCollum, grandfather of Lt. Jeff Allen.



Warden Whidden and the staff of Robinson CI are saddened by the passing of Michael Strogoff Sr., father of Correction Officer Michael Strogoff, Jr.



Warden Charles Lee of Hartford CC, on behalf of the entire staff of the facility, extended their condolences to the family of Lieutenant Robert Tinsley, Jr. who passed away on August 16<sup>th</sup>, having served the Connecticut Department of Correction for fifteen years.

## Why I Chose to Join the Best



PRIDE at Work has profiled some of the newest members of the agency who are a part of Pre-Service Class 224. During their first week at MCTSD, they were asked to write an essay explaining why they chose to become a member of the Department of Correction. Their reasons make clear that our PRIDE, as the best correctional agency in the country, is an ideal that others are drawn to and seek to call their own. This week we feature Correctional Officer Kenneth Hayward of the Garner Correctional Institution

"My father retired from the Department of Correction. When he worked for the DOC he was very happy. He always told me that the DOC was the best place he had ever worked. He always spoke well of the people he worked with. When I got that call to work for DOC, I made the decision in seconds. I feel proud. I know that I want to do this. Right now I want to learn to be the best Correction Officer I can be. That means a lot to me."

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## MVP's:

Allison, Horace Lt	McWCI
Annis, Linda LPN	McWCI
Bacon, Glenn CO	BCI
Bassett, Gary Office Asst	BCI
Boulanger, Christopher CO	HCC
Brady, Joseph SST	BCI
Brodeur, Raymond CO	HCC
Bryant, Glenn CO	McWCI
Christiano, Brian CFSS II	MYI
Coutant, Christopher Capt	HCC
Cyr, Renee CC	CRCI
Dale, Robert CO	HCC
Diaz, Jose CO	McWCI
Drummond, Barry CO	HCC
Gleifert, Tracy CO	McWCI
Grasso, Rosanne CS	MYI
Hill, David GMO	CRCI
Lehr, Gerald CFSS II	MYI
Lopez, Luis CO	BCI
Mancarella, Paul Lt	BCI
Meeker, Kelli CO	BCI
Miclette, Logan CFSS II	MYI
Mulhall, Stephen CFSS II	MYI
Nesbit, John CFSS II	MYI
Nieves, Alba CO	BCC
O'Donnell, John CO	CCI
Palliardi, Heidi CC	McWCI
Pape, Carlene CC	CRCI
Rebick, John CFSS II	MYI
Reinhard, Mary CC	HCC
Rivera, Angel CO	BCC
Rosado, Arthur CO	HCC
Ruggiero, Thomas CO	HCC
Schmidt, Kevin Lt	BCI
Scott, Tracy CO	BCC
Seabold, Todd CO	BCI
Segura, Barbara CS	BCI
Sewell-Griffin, Robert CO	McWCI
Simonelli, Alexandria CFSS II	MYI
Smith, Lamel CO	HCC
Sorensen, Susan CC	BCI
Sposato, Dennis Corr Plmr/Stmfr	BCI
Stewart, Serecia CO	HCC
Steele, MaryJane Rec Spec II	McWCI
Waite-Landrette, Jacki CFSS II	MYI
White, Randall Rec Supv	BCI